

Boston, 11 P.M.
Feb. 8/59.

Dear friend Webb -

'Man proposes,' &c. I
did think, & expect, to write
you a letter by the ship of
tomorrow. But the mail
closes at 9 A.M., and all
the time I could command is
consumed on the 2 letters going
herewith - to Edinburgh & Perth.
But I leave the former open,
& will be glad to have you take
the trouble to read it over. You
will gather from it some
notion of the success of the Festival,
and of what we have been doing

otherwise, — and you will
see, too, how fully I can
now sympathise in your
feelings, when your son breaks
away from his home to go to
distant Australia. Now I
have a boy on the wide
waters, — and who can say
when we shall look upon
his face again? —

I trust you & your family
are well. I am long owing
you a letter, upon my account
especially, & will endeavour
very soon to attend to it,

You will rejoice with us in
the very fair success of the
financial anniversary. Near
or quite \$6000., with expenses to
come out of only \$350. - this is
surely better than \$5000., with
expenses of \$800. to \$1000. Our
heads will not be turned by ^{our} success,
I think; but we shall be em-
boldened for the work before us.

Our Annual Meeting was very
interesting - very bold & earnest -
and most heartily responded to. Not
a press in Boston reviles or slanders
us to-day - the Boston Courier only
excepted, & I had nearly forgotten that.
- The papers which used to get subscribers
by lying about us, & caricaturing our

meetings, now find it pays to give a fair & truthful report of what is said and done. — Our work of petitioning our State Legislat to prohibit, under heavy penalties, the claim in, or delivery of, any person as a slave, within this Commonwealth, has been a very good work. Many towns have turned heartily, and sent up an overwhelming number of names in support of the Petition. Capt Cushing, the Democratic(!) leader in our Legislature, — the ready tool of Mr. Buchanan & the Slave Power is severely scandalized thereby.

All right.

her letter is
When read, please
forward to Miss

With affectionate
regard, Yours

S. May Jr.

Wigham - I send a 'Queenshead' for the same

MS. B. 1. 6 v. 7 p. 29
bird & a gull